

11. (New) Encapsulated spark gap arrangement according to Claim 10, wherein the volume of the high-pressure region, including an arcing chamber and a flow channel, is related to the volume of the low-pressure region of the intermediate chamber as approximately 1:10, and a ratio between the volumes of the arcing chamber and the intermediate chamber is 1:40.

12. (New) Encapsulated spark gap arrangement according to Claim 10, wherein the intermediate chamber on its inner surface comprises metallic walls or is coated with metal layers.

13. (New) Encapsulated spark gap arrangement according to claim 10, wherein the walls of the intermediate chamber are covered on their inner surfaces with a plastic that gives off a quenching gas when heated.

14. (New) Encapsulated spark gap arrangement according to Claim 13, wherein the intermediate chamber comprises means of additional elimination of heat.

15. (New) Encapsulated spark gap arrangement according to Claim 14, wherein metallic cooling surfaces or cooling ribs are used as the means of additional elimination of heat.

16. (New) Encapsulated spark gap arrangement according to claim 10, wherein the flow channel is nozzle-shaped and has a smaller diameter than the intermediate chamber.

17. (New) Encapsulated spark gap arrangement according to claim 10, wherein the volume of the intermediate chamber is made large enough that an entire amount of gas produced by ignition in the arcing chamber is retained therein.

18. (New) Encapsulated spark gap arrangement according to claim 10,